

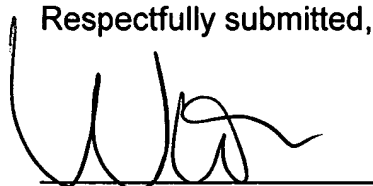
REMARKS

Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by the above amendments. Applicants submit that the present amendments do not change the scope of the allowed claims or require a new search.

Accordingly, Applicants request the Supervisory Patent Examiner to recommend that the present amendment be entered in connection with the subject application.

If the undersigned can be of assistance in addressing any remaining issues relating to this application, the Examiner may contact the undersigned at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. E. Kuss', written over a horizontal line.

William E. Kuss
Reg. No. 41,919
Customer No. 26,285

KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART LLP
Henry W. Oliver Building
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222-2312

Phone: (412) 355-6323
Fax: (412) 355-6501